SITE NUMBER: ED-115R-06
LOCAL NAME: Sasquatch Springs

WRIA:

NORTH COAST OFF CHANNEL SITE INVENTORY DATA

RIVER SYSTEM: E. F. Dickey DATE: 3/24/92 OBSERVER: Young

CHANNEL TYPE: Terrace tributary

TRIBUTARY TO: Thunder Creek (20.0115)

SITE LOCATION: R.B. @ River Mile: 3.55 (field) or 2.75 (WDF catalog)

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE1/4 S2 T29N R14W

UPPER END LOWER END THUNDER CREEK

WATER TEMP: 11.5° 11.5° 11.5°

FLOW (CFS): < 5 gal/min 30 - 40 gal/min

SUBSTRATE TYPE: Mostly silt & mud. Small amount of gravel at mouth.

SITE SIZE: Length- About 150 m of defined channel.

Width- Water surface = 30 cm to 3.5 m Channel = 60 cm to 4.5 m

Depth- Avg. < 5 cm Max. < 10 cm

WATER SOURCE: Seep springs. May handle overflow water from the beaver ponds in the lower reach of trib 20.0116.

<u>DIRECTIONS TO SITE:</u> Go north from Forks on Hwy 101 for 3.1 mi. Turn left (west) about 0.1 mi. beyond MP 195 onto the D-2000. Proceed west on the D-2000 about 4.7 miles until coming to the E. F. Dickey Bridge. Cross the bridge and continue north on the D-2000 another 4.2 miles (going past major junctions with the D-2400 and D-2600). Veer right off of the D-2000 onto the D-2900 (a.k.a. D-5270). Follow the D-2900 (down the hill and into a large flat) about 0.7 miles until coming to a wooden stringer bridge that crosses Thunder Creek. Park at the bridge and walk downstream about 135 m to the mouth of ED-115R-06 (enters Thunder Creek on the right bank and just downstream of a LOD jam).

<u>FISH ACCESS AND CURRENT USE:</u> Steep gradient at the mouth along with slash in the lower channel appears to greatly restrict fish access. May become more accessible as water levels in creek rise during freshets.

FLOODING POTENTIAL: Low. Might experience some backwater flooding at the mouth of the channel.

LANDOWNER: Unknown at this time (probably ITT Rayonier).

<u>COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS:</u> ED-115R-06 is a relatively minor channel that appears to provide drainage for the extensive flat along the right bank of Thunder Creek. It may also receive some overflow water from the beaver ponds in the lower end of tributary 20.0116.

Dropping some 1.5 to 2 m in the lower 5 to 10 m reach of the channel, ED-115R-06 enters Thunder Creek on a fairly steep gradient. Water flows from the mouth of the channel into a small, 60 cm deep pool that is situated just downstream of a large log that spans the banks of the creek.

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COMMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS: (continued)

The lower 30 m reach is deeply incised (1 m wide with 3 m high banks) as it cuts through the right bank of Thunder Creek. Heavy slash is found in the channel along this lower incised reach.

Along the next 120 m reach, the channel of ED-115R-6 becomes progressively more shallow and less defined. At least one small, shallow pool was seen in the middle to upper reach. About 150 m above its mouth the flow diverges into a network of small tributaries that run out through dense brush and a 10 to 12 year old spruce and hemlock plantation. Skunk cabbage and soft sedge are the predominant wetland plant species.

Considering the vast amount of good mainstem rearing habitat along this reach of Thunder Creek it seems there would be very little incentive for juvenile coho to utilize the limited off channel rearing habitat that is available in ED-115R-06. Might want to look at this site again in the fall and see if it looks more attractive to fish when more water is present.





